

3 October 1964 25X1

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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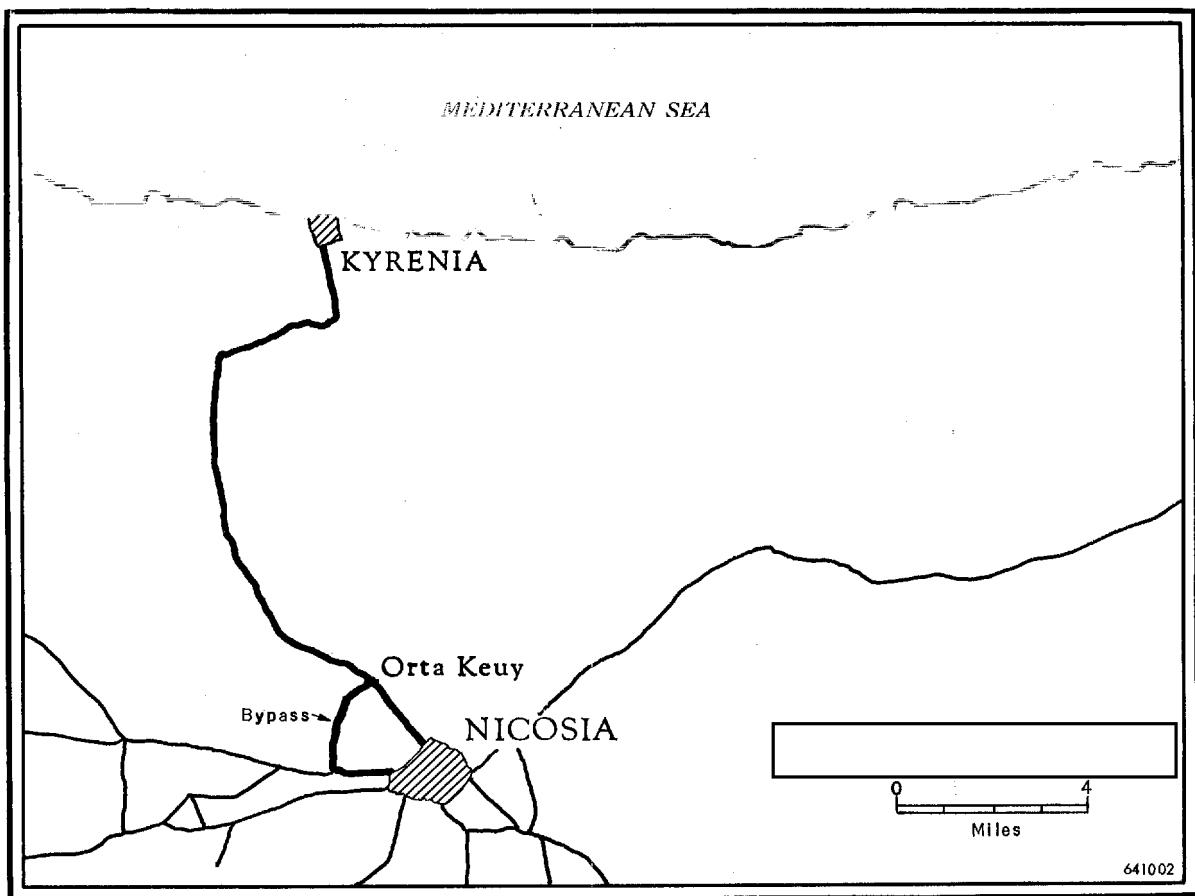
*South Vietnam: General Khanh seems confident at the moment that there will be no further repercussions to the purges now well under way among the military.

He apparently is counting on the continued firm support of the young generals, who at present are reported to view Khanh as the best choice.

The Khanh regime, meanwhile, is moving to impose tighter controls on transit traffic on the Mekong River in an effort to block support to the Viet Cong via Cambodia. Under regulations slated to go into effect next week, all vessels will require Vietnamese Government authorization. More than routine pre-checking will be required for ships of nations which do not recognize South Vietnam, and for those suspected of carrying Communist cargoes.

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CYPRUS



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*Cyprus: The long-simmering disagreement between Archbishop Makarios and General Grivas is becoming more open and more bitter.

Yesterday a pro-Makarios newspaper accused Grivas of prejudice against the "true friends" of Cyprus, such as Egypt and the USSR, while being sympathetic to the US and NATO.

This first open press attack on Grivas appears to be part of a campaign to relegate him to the role of a purely military commander and is in retaliation for recent criticism in pro-Grivas newspapers of the government's action in seeking aid from nations other than Greece.

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Meanwhile, progress has been made toward resolving the dispute over Turkey's plans to rotate part of its army contingent on Cyprus.

Makarios has relaxed his demands that the entire Nicosia-Kyrenia road be opened to Greek Cypriot civilian traffic and has agreed to use a bypass. Control of the road would be transferred from the Turks to the UN in return for Makarios' acceptance of the rotation.

The Turkish foreign minister has stated that his government will drop its demand that UN forces permit armed Turkish Cypriots to use the road.

(continued)

It is possible, however, that the Turkish Cypriots, despite their dependence on Ankara, may refuse to accept a limitation on their use of the road. The US Embassy in Nicosia states that barring the road to armed Turkish Cypriots would "decisively alter" their entire strategic position.

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Ecuador: [The Ecuadorean Government has decisively met the challenge to its authority by the Guayaquil oligarchs, but the situation remains explosive.]

[Over 30 political figures have been arrested. The list includes former president Camilo Ponce, ex-mayor of Guayaquil Bucaram, organizers of two multiparty "fronts" established in late spring to work for the overthrow of the regime, and prominent leaders of the Socialist, Communist, Radical Liberal, and Velasquista parties.]

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[The government has placed Guayaquil under martial law, turning authority in the city over to the navy, and has closed the schools. The rest of the nation seems tranquil, and the military forces appear completely loyal to the government.]

[Failure to act forcefully would have critically undermined the government's authority. On the other hand, its resort to repressive methods may seriously damage its prospects for remaining in office long enough to complete its reforms.]

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Dominican Republic: Tensions in the Dominican Republic remain high in the wake of another crisis precipitated by military factionalism.

On 1 October Colonel Neit Nivar Seijas refused to give up his troop command at the army training center and accept the less sensitive post of quartermaster general. Nivar is a leading member of the army faction which seeks to restore ex-president Balaguer to the presidency. Nivar finally accepted the transfer after naval and air force leaders made a show of force in support of President Reid.

*The following day Reid continued the housecleaning by removing two more leaders of the faction. Army deputy chief of staff Colonel Braulio Alvarez Sanchez was assigned to the Inter-American Defense College and former naval chief Commodore Julio Rib Santamaria was designated naval attaché in London. Reid paved the way for further removals by decreeing that military officers can be dismissed by the chief executive if he deems it necessary.

Meanwhile, Brigadier General Antonio Imbert, one of the two surviving Trujillo assassins, has recently been trying to organize opposition to Balaguer's return. This has further exacerbated differences within the military and weakened the shaky civilian government. 25X1

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NOTES

France-Algeria: [Paris is showing a growing preoccupation with the state of affairs in Algeria.

[On 1 October, the French ambassador in Algiers pressed Ambassador Porter for an assessment of Ben Bella's strength, the role of the army, and cohesiveness of the Algerian opposition.]

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DAILY BRIEF

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